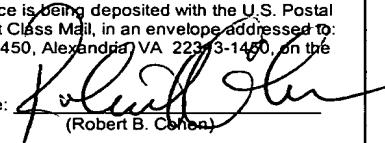


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Dated: February 23, 2004


(Robert B. Cohen)

FEB 26 2004
OCT 2 2004
2132

Docket No.: SONYTA 3.3-139
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Asano et al.

Application No.: 09/937,120

Group Art Unit: 2132

Filed: December 17, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
DATA PROCESSING METHOD

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

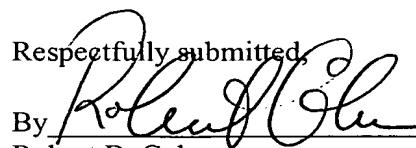
Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. The cited references were listed on two search reports which issued in connection with applicant's corresponding European application. A copy of these search reports and a copy of each reference are enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: February 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Robert B. Cohen

Registration No.: 32,768

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,
KRUMHOLZ & MENTON, LLP

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 09/337,120 |
| Filing Date | December 17, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Tomoyuki Asano |
| Art Unit | 2132 |
| Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| BA | | JP-10-283268-A1 | 10-23-1998 | Toshiba Corp. | | ** |
| BB | | WO-99/40702-A1 | 08-12-1999 | Sun Microsystems, Inc. | | ✓ |
| BC | | EP-0 798 892-A2 | 10-01-1997 | International Business Machines Corporation | | ✓ |
| BD | | EP-0 802 535-A1 | 10-22-1997 | Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. | | ✓ |
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| BF | | EP-1 039 462-A2 | 09-27-2000 | Sony Corporation | | ✓ |
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| BH | | EP-0 989 557-A1 | 03-29-2000 | Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. | | ✓ |
| BI | | WO-99/55055-A1 | 10-28-1999 | Iomega Corporation | | ✓ |
| BJ | | FR-2772532 | 06-18-1999 | Schlumberger Industries SA | | |
| BK | | WO-00/49764-A1 | 08-24-2000 | Sun Microsystems, Inc. | | ✓ |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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|--------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
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** with English abstract only.

1A EP 0 989 557 is an English counterpart to WO 99/38164.

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| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
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